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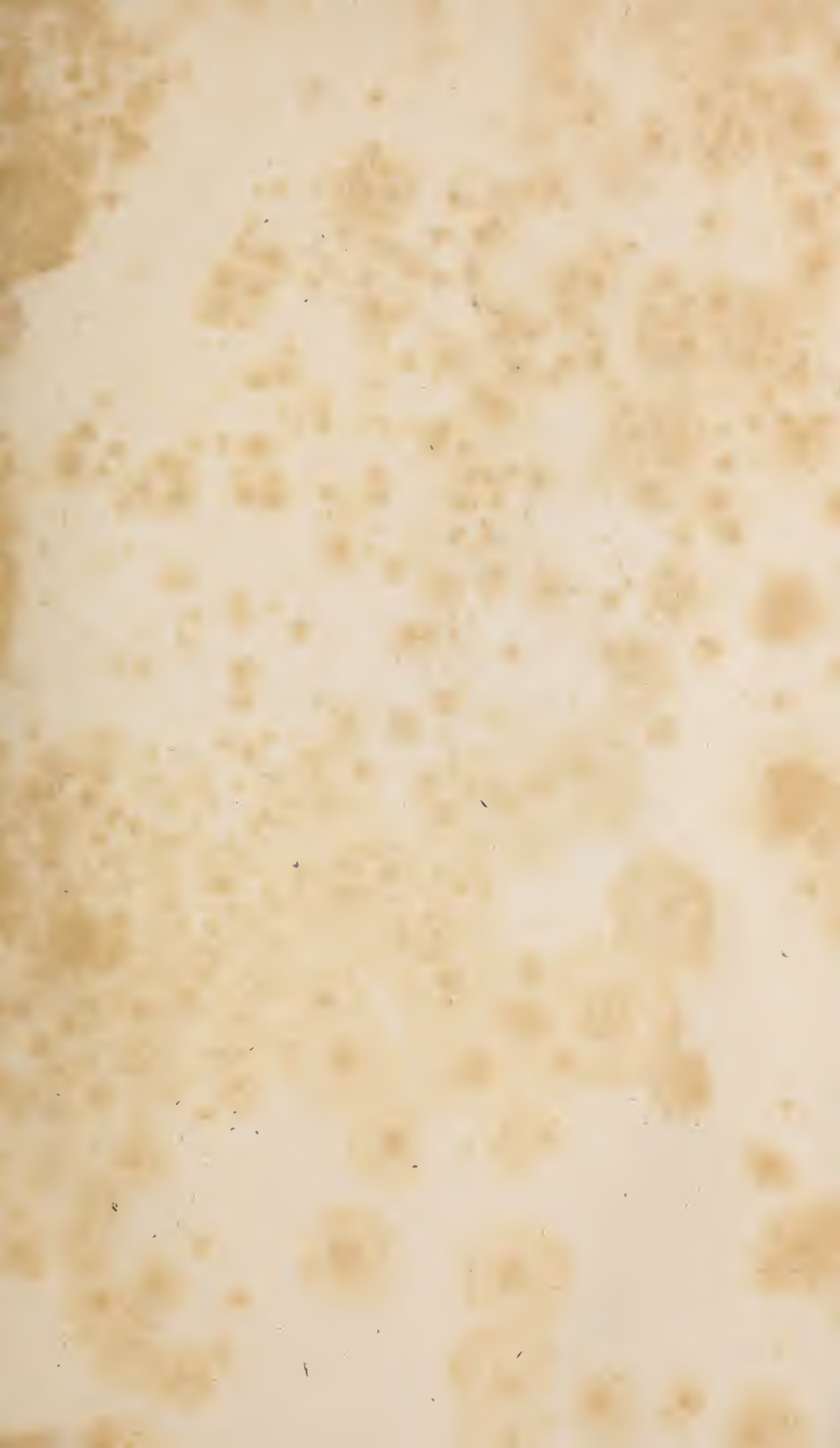
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THE  
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VOL. 21, 1845.

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VOL. XX. ]

WASHINGTON, JANUARY, 1844.

[ NO. 1.

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LIBERIA.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE APPROACHING ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY.

“ You must, therefore, proceed to introduce cultivation into Africa by free labor, and by that alone ; and unless you do introduce cultivation—unless cultivation is introduced into Africa, no earthly power can introduce civilization, industry and knowledge into that country.”—*McQueen’s Geographical Survey of Africa.*

It is a little more than two centuries since a small and feeble company of emigrants embarked from Europe for the new western world. Impelled by persecution and the love of political and religious liberty, they cheerfully encountered the perils of the sea and the wilderness, to found upon these shores a free and Christian commonwealth. How vast and beneficent the consequences, as now seen, and more as now anticipated. Guarded by that Providence that conducted Israel to the promised land, they nobly endured affliction, overcame obstacles and opposition, tamed what was fierce, subdued what was rugged and unyielding in nature, organized good government, enacted just and salutary laws, established education, built towns and cities, dedicating themselves and their works to Him, whom they delighted to honor by temples, but whose throne they knew was Heaven, whose footstool earth, who determines the times and habitations of all men, and rules with absolute authority the universe.

These, our Pilgrim Fathers, engaged in an enterprise comparatively new, with little encouragement from Government; and small experience, with insignificant means of defence, and, as must appear to us, very inconvenient and limited advantages for commerce, and yet this nation, deriving from them existence, embracing some seventeen millions of free-

men, united, prosperous, and increasing with unprecedented rapidity, gives its applauding testimony to their courage, constancy, sagacity, and wisdom. Their energy has redeemed a continent from a savage state, made it smile with the beauty of civilization and art, enriched commerce with its incalculable resources, and shown the certain tendency of every well organized community to enlarge its existence and powers, where nature has confined it within no impassable limits.

The colony of Liberia is a small well-founded and well-governed State, of free colored emigrants and liberated slaves from the United States, established under the auspices of a benevolent society, on the western coast of Africa. True its citizens are the descendants from the uncivilized of that country, brought forcibly as slaves into this, where some have enjoyed the partial advantages of freedom for years, and others instruction in the arts and customs of cultivated and Christian society, though in slavery; and all felt the genial influences which surround men of every class and condition in these United States. Not a few of those born free in this country had well improved their circumstances, and acquired a respectable common education, while many of the slaves, liberated for emigration, had been trained and disciplined by humane and pious masters, in preparation for their duties in their new home of liberty. Those who had not enjoyed freedom had seen its benefit to others, and those who had possessed it, even in circumstances that abridged its privileges, had experienced them sufficiently to know their value and seek for a country where they could be fully theirs. As a people, they may have been less elevated intellectually, perhaps morally, than our fathers, yet they commence their great work in an age of intelligence and improvement far superior to that in which they lived. How vast the contribution made during the last two centuries to the treasures of human knowledge and experience! The great and successful experiment of American Colonization and American Liberty are before the eyes of the Liberians, all the motives which urged the first colonists of America to great actions should move them, and they are allured and animated by brighter hopes. If there be relatively a disadvantage to the Liberians in the character and past condition of their race, is it not more than compensated by the examples presented, the aids proffered, the wonderful advances made by men since the colonization of America in commerce, the arts, government, and all the departments of knowledge? "It may be affirmed" said Mr. Wilberforce, almost forty years ago, "that the Africans, without the advantages to be derived from an intercourse with polished nations, have made greater advancements towards civilization than, perhaps, any other uncivilized people on earth;" and we may add that their descendants, both in freedom and slavery in the United States, have morally and intel-

lectually risen, as rapidly as any class of men starting from the same point, in similar circumstances. Nor should it be forgotten that in the midst of free institutions, and the light of Christianity, men, denied some of their privileges, may learn much of their nature and value, and imbibe information and a spirit qualifying them, in a great measure at least, for their full possession. Many slaves in this country better understand the nature and operations of free government, than the common free population of most others. They see its independent form embodied in the persons, and hear its generous sentiments expressed from the lips of their masters, and in the unrestrained movements, and equal respect and rights of the whole class of white citizens, are taught the precious immunities of equal laws, and of self-government. All the emigrants to Liberia have been thus educated; some have been well instructed in agriculture and the mechanic arts, while not a few have acquired no small knowledge of letters. A large portion were members of the Christian church before they left our shore, and bore good testimony by their lives, to their sincerity and faith.

Such are the people who have embarked, under the direction and patronage of a benevolent association, to establish and build up, on the coast of Africa, a free and Christian commonwealth. The result of their courage, energy, and industry, (though the whole amount expended in their removal and for their benefit, will hardly equal the cost of two ships of the line,) is seen in a well-organized and well-governed republican State, with courts of justice, halls of legislation, schools and seminaries, a free press, and the entire frame and appendages of an improving civil community, extending their lawful jurisdiction over some hundred miles of coast, and the influence of their manners, and the power of their example both into the interior, and along the coast, much further. Neither in the form of their government, their military discipline, the spirit of their laws, nor in their purposes of improvement are they inferior to the earliest American colonists. They have waged an effective war upon the slave-trade, released many of its miserable victims from captivity, and proclaimed to numerous heathen tribes the Truth that enlightens and saves. It is true they have been exposed to dangers, trials and temptations; to the influences of a tropical climate amid a luxuriant vegetation, to the occasional hostility of barbarians, to many vexatious grievances arising from want of capital, ignorance of the productions of the country, and the best modes of agriculture; of its diseases and their remedies; from the distance of civilized communities, and from their inexperience of the work and duties in which they were summoned to engage. And could any man have expected their exemption from such trials? Are they not inevitable in all cases of the establishment of colonies in uncivilized countries? Their existence may be admitted without injury to the cause.

and must be admitted independent of evidence, unless we suppose the interposition of miraculous agency to shield the settlements of Liberia from the invariable and universal laws of nature.

It is essentially important, however, to know, whether in the climate, soil, and productions of Liberia there are found, by an industrious people, ample elements and means of subsistence, or articles of commerce by which such means can be obtained for a numerous population. The exposure of emigrants on their first arrival to fever, is certainly an objection to Colonization, but it is not peculiar to African Colonization; and though the dangers from this cause must be expected to diminish, if not well nigh, at no very distant period, to vanish away; yet their existence as at present, cannot prevent the growth of the colony or the beneficence of its example, laws, and institutions. The great number of human beings torn from Africa by the slave-trade, while the large population still left, obtain with little labor, and by the simplest and most imperfect modes of cultivation, not only means of subsistence, but supplies for numerous vessels visiting the coast, affords strong presumptive evidence of the agricultural resources of the country. But this evidence is rendered conclusive by clear and unquestionable testimony. No character is so pure and lofty as to be inaccessible to calumny, but surely if the life and death of any man can secure confidence in his sincerity and veracity, these virtues belonged to Ashmun. That for six years, the darkest and most perilous in its history, he stood by the colony, its friend, lawgiver and guide, and left it but to die, is as much a fact, as that the colony exists. • He was not infallible, but only one who never knew him, could doubt his honesty, courage, or piety.

“Have we then,” said this great and good man, “been sent to Africa to starve? No! You may, if you please, and God gives you health, become as independent, comfortable and happy as you ought to be in this world. The upland of the Cape is not the best. The Creator has formed it for a town, and not for plantations. But the flat lands around you, and particularly your farms, have as good a soil as can be met with in any country. They will produce two crops of corn, sweet potatoes, and several other vegetables, in a year. They will yield a larger crop than the best soils in America. And they will produce a number of very valuable articles for which in the United States millions of money are every year paid away to foreigners. One acre of rich land, well tilled, will produce you three hundred dollars worth of indigo. Half an acre may be made to grow half a ton of arrowroot. Four acres laid out in coffee plants, will after the third year, produce you a clear income of two or three hundred dollars. Half an acre of cotton trees will clothe your whole family; and except a little hoeing, your wife and children can perform the whole labor of cropping and manufacturing it. One acre of land will make you independent of all the world, for the sugar you use in your family. One acre set with fruit trees and well attended, will furnish

you the year round with more plantains, banannas, oranges, limes, guavas, pawpaws and pine apples than you will ever gather. Nine months of the year you may grow fresh vegetables every month, and some of you who have low-land plantations, may do so throughout the year. Soon all the vessels visiting the coast will touch here for refreshments. You will never want a ready market for your fruits and vegetables. Your other crops being articles of export, will always command cash or something better. With these resources (and nothing but industry and perseverance is necessary to realize them,) you cannot fail to have the means of living as comfortably, independently and happily as any people on earth. If you forfeit such prospects through indolence or folly, thank yourselves for it. No one else, I promise you will condole with you."

In September 1827, the inhabitants of Monrovia assembled and adopted an address to their brethren in the United States. On the subject of the country they say :

"Away with all the false notions that are circulating about the barrenness of this country : they are the observations of such ignorant and designing men, as would injure both it and you. A more fertile soil, and a more productive country, so far as it is cultivated, there is not, we believe, on the face of the earth."

Captain Nicholson after a visit to the Colony early in 1828, on his return wrote :

"The soil in the possession of the colonists is rich, and will produce a superabundance for the support of the colony, as well as for external commerce. Sugar, cotton, coffee, rice, and various trees and plants, yielding valuable dyes, and medicinal gums, can be cultivated with success."

The Rev. G. W. McElroy, an intelligent and highly respected clergyman from Kentucky, visited Liberia in 1835. His public testimony concerning the country, is given in the following words :

"As to the soil of Liberia, I can truly say it is not surpassed, if equalled, in fertility, by the richest lands of the States. I speak advisedly, when I say this, for I have cultivated and traveled over some of our finest lands in several of the western and middle States. I have seen the full stock of corn in Kentucky, and the waving white fields of Ohio and Pennsylvania ; I have trodden the rice lands of Georgia, and the cotton lands of the Carolinas, and in the same year I have seen the golden fruits of Africa. On the banks of the St. Paul I saw the waving millet, the luxuriant plantation and the abundant cassada, the sweet potatoe and the growing rice ; and I must say, the contrast which I was thus enabled to make, led me to the conviction that with equal skill and cultivation, the land of Liberia, would bear a favorable comparison with those of our or any other country."

Dr. Todsén, who resided several years in the colony, says :

"The soil of Liberia, with the exception of Cape Mesurado, on which Monrovia is built, is, in richness and fertility, equal to some of the finest

lands I have ever seen, either in Europe or America. In fact, there are few spots on the globe that present so inexhaustible a soil, so luxuriant a vegetation, even unassisted by the industry of man, as that of the rivers St. Paul, St. John, Mesurado, and the Stockton Creek. Many of the productions of tropical climates, such as coffee, a variety of the finest spices, valuable woods, and dye-stuffs, grow there spontaneously; and it would only require a small share of attention and industry, to bring them to a state of perfection and productiveness. I have no doubt that the culture of tobacco would prove very successful in the colony; and I am inclined to think that the finer qualities of that herb might be successfully transplanted from Havana, and thus become a new and most profitable source of wealth to the colonist. \* \* \* The soil along the above rivers is well adapted, also, to the culture of cotton and the sugar-cane. \* \* \* The forests abound in rare and valuable woods and seeds: no where can rice, cassada, yams, groundnuts, Indian corn, sweet potatoes, and plantains, be cultivated to greater advantage than on those courses. All the domestic animals and fowls (horses excepted) of America, thrive and increase in the colony, with scarcely any care to their owners, particularly goats, sheep and hogs." He also mentions "oranges, limes, and pine-apples as abundant; and that arrowroot in great quantities might be profitably raised for exportation."

Dr. Gould, who visited Liberia in 1835, says:

"A proper attention to the cultivation of the soil would soon place the colony in a most flourishing and happy condition. The soil, though apparently of the same quality of the Maryland good lands, seems, nevertheless, to be much more productive; and being remarkably easy of cultivation, would soon return a rich reward to industrious farmers. Cotton, sugar-cane, coffee, tobacco, and a variety of other articles of commerce, may be cultivated to almost any extent."

Dr. Goheen, physician to the Methodist mission in the colony, wrote in 1838:

"Here are those who enjoy wealth and live at ease; here the inhabitants enjoy all the comforts and luxuries of a soil the most fertile, well watered and best timbered, I have ever seen."

Dr. Blodgett, after visiting the colony the same year, testifies:

"The soil, after leaving the beach one or two miles, becomes very fertile, and will not suffer by comparison with the same lands in the State of Mississippi. In short the country wants nothing but industry to make it a place of delightful residence."

The Rev. John Seys, superintendent of the Methodist mission in Liberia, on his return from Africa in 1835, said:

"That the soil of Liberia contained a mine of exhaustless wealth to the colonists. It was well adapted to the culture of the sugar-cane. He knew all about the culture of sugar; and he had examined the soil of Liberia, and this was his settled opinion. It wanted nothing but cultivation, and it would repay the labor of the agriculturist ten-fold. He here publicly declared it as his judgment, that if the Society would raise and put into



the hands of an agent, the sum of \$10,000, to be laid out in the culture of sugar, it would clear all expenses, and in five years would nett a profit of \$100,000. This might sound chimerical, but he knew what he was saying. He had gone carefully into the calculation, allowing largely for all expenses, and this was the result. The lands of the colony contained the means not only of rendering the colonists easy in circumstances, but of enriching them with every thing that could render life desirable."

The Rev. Dr. Skinner, (once colonial physician, and subsequently governor,) at the same time, went on to give

"His fullest sanction to the statements which had been made by the Rev. Mr. Seys; so rich was the soil and so abundant the means of living, that two hours' labor out of the twenty-four, would furnish a man with all the comforts of life."

In 1832, two respected free colored men (Messrs. Simpson and Moore) went from Mississippi to the colony and remained three weeks, examining all the settlements. They became satisfied with the country, and soon after their return emigrated thither with their friends. In their report they say :

"The soil at Caldwell and Millsburg is as fertile as we ever saw, and much like the land in Mississippi. We saw growing upon it, pepper, corn, rice, sugar-cane, cassada, plantains, cotton, oranges, limes, coffee, peas, beans, sweet potatoes, water-melons, cucumbers, souses, bananas, and many other fruits and vegetables."

Captain Crowell, of Massachusetts, who visited the colony the same year, after mentioning other blessings, says:

"To these advantages may be added that of a most rich and promising soil, well adapted to the culture of all the tropical productions."

Captain Vorhees, of the U. S. Ship John Adams, touched at Liberia in December, 1833. In his report to the Secretary of the Navy, from that place, he states :

"The country is fertile and productive of every variety of sustenance necessary to man; and no settler, however poor, with industry and frugality, after a year's support need to be in want. The settlement must move onward, and, with all its disadvantages, it appears a miracle that it should be in such a state of advancement."

The Rev. J. B. Pinney, first a missionary and subsequently governor of Liberia, wrote in 1835 :

"We shall triumph. The advantages of soil and products and freedom which exist in Liberia, will, when prejudice yields to sober reason, induce the high-minded and enterprising men of color in America, to emigrate on their own resources. The crops of arrowroot, coffee, pepper, and cotton, exceed all that can be boasted of in the United States. \* \* \* By a very careless trial of arrowroot, it is ascertained that at ten cents per pound, the land will, with very little trouble, produce at the rate of \$100 per acre: and so of other crops, sugar-cane, coffee, and cotton."

The Rev. Charles Rockwell spent some days at the colony, in the autumn of 1836, and took special pains to examine the country and the condition of nearly all the settlements. He writes :

“The soil of Liberia is various, being affected by its position, its degree of elevation, and other similar causes. Directly on the ocean, and along the banks of the rivers, a light, warm, sandy soil has in some places been thrown up by the water, which will yield sweet potatoes, beans, and cassada, but without manure the crops will be small.

“The next variety is bottom land, of strong, light-colored clay, which is sometimes mingled with sand and dark loam. It is productive, but is exposed to injury from the extremes of dry and wet weather. \* \* \* The richest soil, however, and that which is most prevalent in connexion with the different settlements, is a deep, loose, black mould, of alluvial formation. It extends back from the banks of the rivers, and derives its strength from the wash of the fertile uplands above and beyond it. It is sufficiently moist, is free from stones and gravel, and will give to any crop a rank and luxuriant growth.

“In higher positions than the last is a red, clayey soil, mingled with rocks and gravel of the same hue, all of which derive their color from the oxyde of iron, with which they abound. This soil is of a poor quality, but may be much improved by manuring.

“The last variety we shall notice is a strong, rich soil, found in connexion with the higher and more rocky uplands. It produces a rank, luxuriant growth of forest trees and plants, but will produce well during the dry months of the year. Lands of this kind, however, are extremely favorable to the cultivation of coffee and other valuable plants, and vegetables.”

Mr. Rockwell gives an extended and minute account not only of the productions of the colony, but of the character, manners, and condition of the settlers, (copious extracts from which will be found in this Journal for August and September, 1842;) but one fact dropped incidently we cannot forbear to mention. He observes :

*“Sweet potatoes will grow every season of the year. \* \* \* They were brought to us by the colonists in canoes, some of them twenty miles from the coast; and in such abundance were they offered us, that, though we supplied our crew of nearly five hundred men with them, yet many more were brought to us than we could furnish a market for.”\**

[Compare the statements of Mr. Rockwell in his “*Sketches of foreign*

---

\* Dr. Bacon, though he represents African diseases as easily curable, refers to the mortality among emigrants as justifying the severest condemnation against the conductors of the Colonization scheme. On this point we state two facts :

1st. For some time past the births in the Cape Palmas colony have exceeded the deaths, and the mortality has been less, than among the free blacks of Baltimore : and,  
Secondly; We notice an incidental remark of the Rev. Mr. Rockwell, who, in urging the importance of persons emigrating in the prime of life, says: “Children of such parents, too, if born in Africa, will be much better adapted to the peculiar climate of that country, than those who even at an early age remove thither. Hence it is, that at Monrovia, with a population [this was six years ago] of six or eight hundred inhabitants, there may now be seen a hundred fine, healthy boys, children of the colonists, engaged in their evening gambols in the streets.”

*travel and life at sea,*" with those of Dr. D. F. Bacon, in his "*Wanderings on the seas and shores of Africa,*" as both authors were in Liberia about the same time.]

The Rev. Dr. Savage, Episcopal missionary at Cape Palmas, in relating the incidents of a trip up what he terms the "Noble Cavally" river, says:

"A highly attractive object, to my New England eye, was maize, so frequently seen upon the banks of this river; and another no less reviving to my southern associations, was rice;—both of which are produced here in perfection. The rice farms are very extensive; and at one time are seen, as we ascend the river, (through a small opening among the trees, made for a landing place,) expanding far beyond into fields of many acres; at another, the brush being cleared away to the very verge of the river, unfolds to the eye an immense expanse, waving in all the luxuriance of nature."

The late Governor Buchanan on his arrival in the colony in 1836, wrote:

"Liberia far exceeds, in almost every respect all that I had ever imagined of her. Nothing is wanted, I am persuaded, but a better system of agriculture, and the permanent establishment of schools, to bring the people of Liberia to the very highest point of the scale of intellectual refinement and political consequence."

This same gentleman in his despatch of the 13th of December, 1840, reported 7,205 coffee trees growing in Monrovia and the adjacent villages, and 23,000 in the three settlements of Bassa Cove, Edina, and Bexley. At the close of that month, premiums were awarded for the cultivation of coffee trees to

S. Benedict, for	-	-	-	3,060 trees.
James Moore, for	-	-	-	3,300 "
Lewis Sheriden, for	-	-	-	3,000 "
Samuel Claborn, for	-	-	-	2,000 "

Under date of August 2, 1842, Dr. J. Lawrence Day, colonial physician, after mentioning the efforts of Mr. Jenckes, (a white man from the United States,) in the cultivation of the sugar cane, observes:

"The good he did, lives after him. \* \* \* He has demonstrated too, what was hitherto a problem, viz: that there is nothing in the soil or atmosphere, that will prevent our making, with the least kind of care, as good, as much, and (with the same means of grinding,) as cheap sugar as is made in the West Indies. Three thousand pounds of sugar, and several hundred gallons of molasses were manufactured during the last season, at the colonial farm; and but for a defect (to be easily remedied hereafter) in the grinding of the cane, this quantity would have been doubled."

Dr. James Hall, (a gentleman of the most accurate observation and sound judgment, who has resided eleven years in Liberia) says:

"She, Africa, possesses the soil, the climate, the physical force and only requires capital and intellect to enable her to flood the world, with those

tropical productions which have for the past century been so eagerly sought in the rocky islands of the West Indies, and which have been there produced at such a sacrifice of human life and human happiness.”

Of coffee and the sugar cane Dr. Hall says :

“Both of these products are indigenous to Africa. The former of the most perfect species, is found in abundance in the forest, and only requires transplanting, in order to yield at least one hundred per cent, more than the most prolific species cultivated in the West Indies. The sugar cane now growing on the public farm in Cape Palmas, is equal in size and weight to that produced in any part of the world, and is capable of being cultivated to any extent in every variety of soil throughout the colony.”

After mentioning the cheapness of land, of rice, and of labor, Dr. Hall adds :

“And in fact, every facility exists for carrying on operations for the production of sugar and coffee at a less expense than it can be done in the West Indies, and requiring less than one tenth the amount of capital—the whole expense of labor not exceeding the interest on the money required for slave labor.”

Such is a portion of the testimony, decided and unequivocal, gathered from various, intelligent, and respectable individuals, several of them in no way connected with the Colonization Society, most of them, if not all, men of unimpeached and unsullied honor and veracity. Such testimony is not to be invalidated by any single witness, certainly not by one visiting the colony from motives of curiosity, or an excentric humour, yet availing himself of the Society’s patronage, and who, while entrusted with a commission as principal colonial physician, with a salary of \$1,600 per annum, stated in his first letter to the Society, that in consequence of one of the emigrants having landed contrary to his and the Governor’s orders, and used some insulting language, and repeated it in company with some of his friends, he had at first *concluded not again to land, but to return in the same vessel to the United States.* This sudden and extraordinary determination of the author of “*Wanderings on the seas and shores of Africa,*” from which he informs us he was turned by the apologies, representations, entreaties, and promises of several of the colonial gentlemen, and especially by the advice of Dr. Hall, who happened to arrive at that time, was certainly less wonderful than his no less sudden renunciation of all idea of effecting anything whatever under the powers he conceived himself clothed with, as to “medical police,” so that, (to use his own words) “I abandoned all hopes and plans of saving life by prevention of exposures, and determined to go on shore as a mere medical practitioner, and satisfied that a brace of pocket pistols and a sword-cane would be a sufficient remedy for any repetition of my first difficulties,

[having] assured the Governor that I should use them on the first man that insulted or threatened me in the discharge of my duty." The difficulties of our friend, the Wanderer, appear thereafter to have rapidly increased; and having on two occasions "defined his position," and forcibly compelled obstinate patients to take his medicines with happy effect, in one case, upon the disposition as well as upon the health; (for the man on recovery became his devoted friend, and "his regard dated," says our author, "from this one moderate drubbing:") he makes the following sage reflections:

"Such are 'niggers,' in the peculiar American sense of that American form of the word; such are they under kind treatment, and such are they under the opposite. I do not use the word 'nigger' as synonymous with 'negro:' If the latter is taken as a specific term, the former then expresses a peculiar artificial sub-variety of that species induced by cultivation. The latter is what the former has become by slavery, and may be morally defined and characterized as *a creature with some of the inferior virtues of a good dog and all the meanest vices of a bad man.*"

Without attempting here to review the unfinished work of Dr. Bacon, we suggest that the preceding sentence may explain many of its dark surmisings, discouraging conjectures, unpromising predictions, and strange and extraordinary statements. A white man in Liberia acting upon the opinion of the Doctor, could hardly expect, were this opinion correct, to find it concurred in by the people, and if an error, must impute his exemption from manifestations of public indignation, either to eminent virtue and forbearance, in the community, or to some remarkable protection of Providence.

But the inquiry may be natural, why, if the fertility of the Liberian soil be great, and its productions such as have been represented, why so few, if any, have been brought into the markets of the world? The answer is obvious. The emigrants have generally gone out with little or no property; they have received but very limited assistance; have been compelled to engage in the construction of their houses; the clearing of the lands; in the culture of such vegetables as were most necessary for their immediate subsistence, and such barter trade with the natives as might give them the most speedy and profitable returns. In a new and uncivilized country, exposed to the trials of a tropical climate, and in their earliest settlement not unfrequently to the hostility of the native barbarous tribes, they have directed, of necessity, their principle energies to secure shelter, security and subsistence. No rich capitalists have been there; no treasured commodities of all climes; no labor-saving machines; and but very imperfect knowledge, and scarcely any experience of the cultivation of the choicest productions of the tropics. Our wonder is not that they have done so little, but that they have done so much.

"Monrovia (said Mr. Rockwell, writing some six years ago,) was the first and is the largest settlement, containing about five hundred houses,

five churches, several schools, besides being the seat of the Colonial Government. We were everywhere hospitably received, taking our seats with the colonists at their tables; uniting with them in a public dinner they gave us on shore, and entertaining them and their ladies on board our ship. The houses of the wealthier are two stories high, of a good size, and with drawing-rooms furnished with sofas, sideboards, and other articles of luxury and ease. Most of the colonists, however, live in houses of a story and a half high, framed and covered as in New England, and having besides the chambers, small but convenient rooms on the lower floor, while the cooking is commonly done, as in the southern United States, in cabins distinct from the house, to avoid the annoyance of smoke and heat."

The same respectable author (from whom we quote because he visited the colony a short time before the arrival of the "*Wanderer on the seas and shores of Africa*,") speaking of the inhabitants of New Georgia, a settlement of recaptured Africans, says:

"These settlers are active, industrious farmers, and are fast acquiring a knowledge of the useful arts, and securing to themselves the blessings of civilization and Christianity. But a few years since, and they were sunk in the beastly degradation of paganism, knowing nothing of the language in which they have received all the education and religious instruction they have enjoyed. Now they have a town, regularly laid out, the streets and houses are extremely clean and neat, while all around them is an appearance of thrift, and of thorough and successful cultivation of the soil, which is truly suprising, if we consider how recently the inhabitants have emerged from the indolent and unsettled habits of savage and barbarous life."

Again says Mr. Rockwell:

"On the St. Paul's river, commences the town of Caldwell, which is seven miles in length, each farmer having a given width on the river, and besides this town lot, ten acres lying further back. The land is thoroughly cleared, and in a good state of cultivation, for five or six miles in length, and from one fourth to half a mile in width."

Of Millsburgh, he says:

"The situation of the town is peculiarly pleasant; its principal streets, like those of Monrovia and Caldwell, running parallel to the banks of the river, the rising grounds around, being covered with lofty forest trees of the richest foliage; while, at one extremity of the village, is one of the most beautiful grass-covered hillocks, I have ever seen. The inhabitants are mostly hardy and industrious farmers, and though reared in America, we were surprised to learn that they enjoyed better health than they had done in the United States, and that they could endure more fatigue and hard labor, than the native Africans around them."

Of the settlement at Bassa Cove, then but three years old, having stated that it was founded by one hundred and twenty-six emigrants directly from the United States, Mr. Rockwell says:

"The colonists had cleared forty acres of land, and besides erecting

houses for themselves, and ten others for future emigrants, they had a house for the family of the Agent, and a substantial Government House, twenty feet by fifty, and two stories high, with a well enclosed and beautiful garden of two acres annexed to it."

This had been done, although the settlement had been exposed to the hostility of enemies and being planted on the principle of non-resistance, entirely broken up at one time, and a number of the inhabitants massacred. It was soon re-commenced with the spirit and means of resisting aggression. "Under this regimen," says Mr. Rockwell,

"The colony has continued to flourish, furnishing a safe asylum for the emigrant and the Missionary of the Cross; by its treaties with the natives, and by other means, aiding to suppress the slave-trade, and by its schools and churches, and the arts and comforts of civilization and Christianity, strongly recommending by the force of example, the religion of the Bible, with its train of attendant blessings, alike to the minds and hearts of the pagan tribes around."

Of the independent colony at Cape Palmas, founded but three years before, by one hundred and ninety colored persons under the auspices of Maryland, Mr. Rockwell states:

"There were forty-seven farms of five acres each, under cultivation, and besides having commenced a public model farm of fifty acres, the colonists had made five miles of road into the interior and prepared houses for the accomodation of two hundred more emigrants."

These are observations of the aspect and condition of things, as we have said, more than *six years ago*, very nearly at the time to which the sketches of "*Wanderings on the seas and shores of Africa*" apply. And what is Mr. Rockwell's testimony in regard to the contentment of the settlers?

"It has often been said that the colonists of Liberia are not contented with their situation, and were they able would gladly return to this land. From free intercourse with those of all classes in the different settlements, and after diligent inquiry on this subject, however, I was fully persuaded that there are few communities in any land, the members of which are more generally satisfied with their condition than are the great mass of the colonists. I found, too, a decided preference of Africa to America, in instances in which I should have expected the contrary to have been the fact."

Let it be remembered that up to the period to which these last statements refer, trade had occupied mainly the thoughts, and principally contributed to the comforts and prosperity of the colonists, that even in 1832 the imports into Monrovia were to the value of \$50,000, and the exports to that of \$125,000, and that, though the trade at this point afterwards decreased somewhat, yet a number of small coasting vessels had been built by the colonists, and when Mr. Rockwell was there fifteen or twenty such craft were owned and navigated by them. Let it also be remembered, that the early emigrants to Liberia were necessarily much occupied in public

affairs, means of defence, military discipline, the organization and administration of their political, judicial, and social system; in counteracting the agencies of the slave-trade, in occasional wars, in negotiations with African tribes, and finally, that each successive company of them, were obliged, for several months, to restrain themselves from exertion, and acquire by inquiry and experiment, the knowledge, which is only so attained, of their duties, and methods and means of living in a new and strange country. All recent testimony from Liberia shows that agriculture is receiving increased attention. In his letter dated December 13th, 1840, Governor Buchanan stated :

“It should be remembered that all the land in cultivation in the colony (about 713 acres) is worked entirely by hand. We have made a quantity of very beautiful sugar this season, though all the work has been done at the greatest possible disadvantage.” Under date of April 6, 1840, he states: “Business in all its branches has increased three-fold, and there is an abundance of the products of the earth in the colony for all the wants of the people.”

It is some consolation to find the “*Wanderer on the seas and shores of Africa*,” who amuses himself and his readers with some not very successful attempts to exhibit in ridiculous aspects the scheme of African Colonization and the people and condition of the colony, making admissions that from an opponent, are confirmations strong of the fertility of the soil and ample resources of Liberia. Observe, also, the admissions we now cite, are from one who would have us believe that want of food, and starvation are among the common afflictions of the people of Liberia. After describing the “soil of Monrovia as very thin and poor,” except the valley between the cape and the fort, Dr. Bacon remarks :

“The shrubs and trees, growing through the streets and gardens, are mostly foreign fruits introduced indirectly from the West Indies, of which the orange, lime, soursop, guava, tamarind, cocoanut, and papaw, are the principal. Of these only the guava and the lime are abundant; the former having been naturalized (probably by the English traders before the beginning of the colony,) so that it has become quite a nuisance, as it is a shrub of ready and luxuriant growth on poor soils; and it has so occupied some of the streets and fields as to require much labor to keep it down. Limes, too, appear to have sprung up without cultivation, in great numbers. Oranges are cheap and good, though not very plenty; for I do not think there are more than twenty trees producing them in the whole colony. [These trees must be exceedingly productive, or the Liberians have little taste for oranges.] The soursop is not more abundant. The tamarind quite rare. The cocoanut is found in but two localities.”

Again says Dr. Bacon :

“In a very few spots, too, are seen the plantain and banana, which, though soft, succulent, perishable plants, each trunk dying as its fruit is removed, have, nevertheless, the height, air, and proportions of flourish-



ing young trees. Of these, as of the other fruits, we only find enough to show how easily they may be raised, and to make us wonder and complain that they are not produced in satisfactory abundance. The same may be said of the papaw, and of garden vegetables likewise. In regard to the latter, this negligence appears particularly culpable, as even the thin rocky soil of the Cape, with the most ordinary cultivation, will produce not only the vegetable of the tropics, but also most of those which are found in the gardens of temperate regions, some of which here flourish perennially, requiring little attention to make them yield a continual crop for several seasons; such are limes, beans, and other legumes, which, when once planted produce richly for a long time. Even the roots natural to warm regions are capable of this repeated production. The sweet potatoes are pulled up, the roots picked off, and the green tops stuck in the ground again, to radicate even in the first shower." Again: "The appropriate grain of this climate and region is rice, which is raised in great abundance and excellence by the natives, from the Gambia to Ivory Coast, and to an unknown distance interior. On this part of the coast, too, this great staple is cultivated with infinitely less labor than in other tropical regions."

We notice that Dr. Bacon, though he could see no evidence of the successful cultivation of the sugar-cane and coffee tree, does not deny the nature of the soil and climate to be suitable for the production of the sugar-cane, coffee, and cotton. From a letter of Dr. W. Johnson, who had resided four years in the colony, dated June 3d, 1841, we copy the following extracts:

"All who have tried the Liberia coffee, as far as I have heard, say that it is equal to the Mocha or Java. The usual cost of clearing land in Liberia and introducing a crop of rice, is worth about five dollars in goods at African prices. The coffee requires rather close topping after it is two feet high, as the elongation of the lower part of the trunk will even then make the full grown tree six or seven feet in height, which it ought not to exceed. It always bears, when cultivated, in the third year, *though but a small quantity*. There is a large increase in the product every year, and *in seven years*, I think from my observation of a number of trees of about that age, they *will average four pounds per tree*. *We have not yet seen the tree attain its full growth, but it doubtless requires about fifteen years*. In the West Indies it is said to grow twenty years. The lowest estimate of those in the colony who have raised, measured, and weighed the coffee repeatedly, is five pounds per tree for an average production. This is quite extraordinary, as in the West Indies the average crop is stated by very respectable authority, to be at full bearing, a tierce of a thousand pounds to an acre, on which they plant about seven hundred trees. A coffee tree in Monrovia yielded last year two bushels, three and three-fourths pecks of berries, which produced *seventeen pounds of cleaned and cured coffee*. Such facts as these are fully explained by the appearance of the trees. They will grow, if not topped down, to the height of twenty feet, and will cover ten feet square of land, while the extent of the branches in the West Indies is not much larger than that of a hog'shead. The coffee berries are commonly borne on the branches more compactly than any other fruit which I recollect to have seen. A small branch, which I brought to New York, bore, within in the space of one foot square, one hundred and sixty berries, and was a fair specimen of their general appearance. The plant

is indigenous in Liberia, or has become naturalized, so that it abounds in the forest. The usual allowance of labor in the West Indies is one slave to an acre of coffee. But we have free women and children and natives for its prosecution, to all of which circumstances it is very well adapted. We have two or three kinds of coffee, one of which, and the best, has leaves as large as a hand, and another as small as that of the apple tree."

From this statement it may be inferred :

1st. That the best coffee plants are to be found in Liberia, and that the soil is well suited to their growth and fruitfulness.

2d. That if properly cultivated, they will produce at least as well, probably better than in any part of the West Indies.

3d. That had the earliest settlers (which it is absurd to suppose,) found leisure when they first arrived, to set out coffee plantations, they might in 1837, have nearly attained their full growth.

4th. That had they for several years, been necessarily occupied (as was the fact,) in securing subsistence from other sources than coffee plantations, then the fact, as Dr. Bacon states, that coffee was imported into the colony, and not thence exported, and would be so, as he thinks, "for ten years to come," from 1837, is no reason for discouragement in regard to the production of coffee in that country.

5th. That among "the few neglected coffee bushes that Dr. Bacon saw growing in the streets of Monrovia," (or which escaped his notice in its enclosures and gardens) was one that in 1840, *yielded seventeen pounds of cleaned and cured coffee.*

6th. It would appear from the following extract from the letter of Dr. J. Lawrence Day, dated Monrovia, February 20, 1841, that the product of this one tree is not our only demonstration (though it is quite sufficient) of what may be done, or of what will be done in the culture of coffee in the colony. Dr. Day, says.

"In December, nearly forty thousand coffee trees were living, the plantings and growth of the year 1840. The number next year will probably exceed this. These all in a few years will become a source of profit to the owners, much larger in proportion than in any other country. To show you what calculations may be made, a colonist last year picked from one tree three bushels of berries, which it was found yielded four pounds of dried coffee to the bushel. You may think this an extreme case; I grant it. *But there are now bearing numbers of trees, which will every one yield one bushel and many of them two bushels of berries to the tree.*"

From these facts we infer the probability that before the "ten years" even dating from the year of Dr. Bacon's visit, coffee will be an article of export from Liberia, and the certainty, that at no remote day, it will become one of the great staple productions of the colony.

It is not to be imagined that human nature suddenly loses all its weak-

nesses and imperfections, by crossing the ocean, or by any new circumstances (however favorable to its elevation,) among which it may be introduced, nor would it be reasonable to look for an immediate degree of advancement among colonists, composed of a people, long depressed by adverse and withering influences, not a few of them by slavery, beyond what would be expected of the most favored of our race. We have thought the work of African Colonization admirably adapted to strengthen the intellectual powers and nurture and develop the moral faculties and dispositions of those who might engage in it, and that we might justly anticipate in the community of Liberia, a sure if not rapid progress in knowledge and virtue. We have never claimed for this people entire exemption from the vices, which have more or less existence in all countries, and in all numerous classes of human beings. With very few exceptions, the reports of those both from the United States and England, who have visited or resided in Liberia, have been such as to create belief in the general contentment, sobriety, industry and good character of the colonists. Their own opinions and sentiments, the colonists themselves, are best able truly and fully to express. In September, 1827, the inhabitants of Monrovia addressed a circular to their brethern in this country in which they say :

“ Truly we have a goodly heritage; and if there is any thing lacking in the character or condition of the people of this colony, it never can be charged to the account of the country, it must be the fruit of our own mismanagement or slothfulness or vices. But from these evils we confide in Him, to whom we are indebted for all our blessings, to preserve us.

“ It is the topic of our weekly and daily thanksgiving to Almighty God, both in public and private, (and He knows with what sincerity,) that we were ever conducted, by his Providence, to this shore.”

In September, 1836, the citizens of Monrovia again assembled and in a series of resolutions expressed their unabated attachment to the scheme of African Colonization and their gratitude to its friends. Among the resolutions adopted on that occasion we find the following :

“ Whereas, it has been widely and maliciously circulated in the United States of America, that the inhabitants of this colony are unhappy in their situation and anxious to return, on motion of *Rev. B. R. Wilson*,

“ Resolved that this report is false and malicious, and originated in a design to injure the colony, by calling off the support and sympathy of its friends, that so far from a desire to return, we would regard such an event, as the greatest calamity that could befall us.”

In evidence, of the satisfaction of the colonists, with their condition, and of their generally correct habits of temperance, industry, good morals, and respect for the Sabbath, and the various duties of religion, we might adduce testimony from many respectable witnesses not only from this

country but from Great Britain. As far back as March, 1828, Captain Nicholson of the United States sloop-of-war Ontario, wrote to Mr. Clay ;

“ All the colonists with whom I had communication, (and with nearly the whole of them did I communicate in person, or by my officers,) expressed their decided wish to remain in their present situation, rather than return again to the United States. The appearance of all the colonists, those of Monrovia as well as Caldwell, indicated more than contentment. Their manners were those of freemen, who experienced the blessings of liberty, and appreciate the boon.”

In similar statements Capt. Sherman writing in 1830, Capt. Kennedy of the United States Ship Java, in 1831, and Capt. Abels, Capt. Crowell and Capt. Page of the United States schooner Boxer, in 1832, concur.

In October 1834, the Rev. John Seys wrote from Monrovia to Gerrit Smith, Esq.:

“ Here are to be seen intelligent, sensible, and in many cases well educated colored gentlemen, with whom it is pleasing to converse, and whose houses and families give evidence of good order, morality, temperance and industry. Here are ministers of the Gospel, who add to all this a faithful, and zealous and untiring zeal to promote the cause of Christ generally, and as it should be, to promote the prosperity of their respective denominations.

“ They have not classical education, but who is to be blamed? And while they receive no remuneration, no salary, and are obliged to follow a trade, to be entangled with the affairs of this life, to procure an honest livelihood, is it not much to their praise, that they fill their appointments, and go up the rivers and creeks at their own expense, to teach their brethren and neighbors the way to Heaven? There are members of several Christian churches, who, at the sound of the church-going bell, are seen on the holy Sabbath, slowly and reverently assembling in their respective places of worship, to adore their Creator and keep his blessed day. In fact, the Sabbath is held sacred in Monrovia.”

In 1835, the Rev. B. R. Wilson, (an intelligent and religious colored man who after spending some time in the colony *had returned for his family*) wrote for publication :

“ The morals of the colonists I regard as superior to the same population in almost any part of the United States. A drunkard is a rare spectacle, and when exhibited is put under the ban of public opinion at once.

“ To the praise of Liberia, be it spoken, I did not hear during my residence in it, a solitary oath uttered by a settler ; this abominable practice has not yet stained its moral character and reputation, and heaven grant that it never may.”

Captain Outerbridge of the brig Rover, visited the colony in the summer of 1835, and August 5th, wrote for publication in the New Orleans Observer, of the people of Monrovia :

“ The inhabitants appear to enjoy very good health, and are very friendly towards one another. The people of Monrovia are all for trade

and are all very pious, and I can say, to my knowledge I heard not a word of ill-fame while I was at Monrovia among the Americans, [colonists ;] for it appeared to me that they had left off that practice, as well as drinking, and you will see them all going to church on Sunday three times a day, and they appear to be very strict in their devotions; as you cannot get a man to work on Sunday, not even the natives."

The Rev. G. W. McElroy, on his return from Liberia in December, 1835, wrote:

"As to the morality of the colony, it is in general good."

Captain Wm. Hutton, an Englishman, and agent of the Western African Company on a visit to the colony in October, 1836, after speaking of the advantages of the place, and the friendly and hospitable manners of the inhabitants, and of their gardens, which he pronounced in good order and well enclosed, where he had observed,

"Fine cabbages, cucumbers, parsley, beans and other vegetables, as well as the most delicious fruits, such as pine-apples, oranges, grapes, guavas, sousops, the African cherry, melons, and lemons;" he adds "I must also do the inhabitants the justice to say, that they are a highly respectable, moral, intelligent people."

The Rev. J. B. Pinney, (then the late governor of Liberia,) in a speech in New York, June 28, 1836, after speaking of the desitute character of emigrants, (many of them liberated slaves,) on their arrival, said,

"Could they be expected at once to produce a great and wide effect on the native population around; yet they have built them houses, and churches, and school-houses. To expect that they should while struggling to effect this, open their houses and fill them with the children of natives, hire teachers to instruct them, and ministers to preach to them, and give away bibles and tracts among them would be a most unreasonable expectation. Yet something like this has been done by these poor colonists. They have taken natives into their families, and taught them the customs of this country, and they have exerted an effort decidedly beneficial upon their morals. I do not say that all the colonists are moral. Would to God they were. All the people in New York are not moral. But most of these poor people are moral, and what is far better, they are pious men and women. They have erected four houses for divine worship. They have put up 500 dwelling houses, many of them of stone. They have stone stores, some of them worth from two to three thousand dollars; besides a court-house and jail."

The late lamented Governor Buchanan, in 1836, on viewing the villages of recaptured Africans, wrote:

"The air of perfect neatness, thrift and comfort, which reign throughout, afforded a lovely commentary on the advancement which these interesting people have made in civilization and Christian order, under the patronage of the Colonization Society. Imagine to yourself a level plain of some two or three hundred acres, laid off into square blocks with streets intersecting each other at right angles, as smooth and clean as the best

swept side-walk in Philadelphia, and lined with well-planted hedges of cassada and palm—Houses surrounded with gardens luxuriant with fruit and vegetables—a school-house full of orderly children neatly dressed and studiously engaged—and then say whether I was guilty of extravagance in exclaiming, as I did, after surveying this most lovely scene, that had the Colonization Society accomplished nothing more than had been done in the rescue from slavery and savage habits of these three hundred people, I should be well satisfied.” Of his general impressions he says; “were I to obey the impulse of feeling, I fear you would place me among the list of eulogists whose exaggerated descriptions have done little less injury to the interests of Liberia, than her most ignorant revilers. But after all the curbing I have imposed upon my colonization enthusiasm, and the determination to look at things on the dark side as well as on the bright, Liberia far exceeds in almost every respect, all that I have ever imagined of her.”

In 1828 the Rev. Dr. Skinner, for a time Governor of the colony, said :

“Of the colonists a large portion are professors of religion. In the settlement of New Georgia, which is composed of native Africans who had been in America but four months, of 375 there are 167 members of the church. Dr. Skinner said that in his residence of fourteen months in Liberia, he had seen and heard of only two intemperate persons, and had heard only one profane oath. In regard to the charge of bitter prejudice against the white man, among the colonists, he said that the whites are treated with respect in Liberia, when they treat the inhabitants with respect.”

In 1838 Dr. Goheen, who was never connected with the Colonization Society, but with the Methodist mission, wrote :

“The people are industrious and persevering in their attempts to gain a comfortable livelihood, temperate and economical in their habits, and appear to be really enjoying life.

“I have inquired diligently, and I have yet the first man to find who would leave Liberia for a residence in America on any terms.”

Dr. James Lawrence Day, colonial physician, writes in Feb., 1841 :

“I have before expressed to you my very agreeable surprise at finding the colony such as it is—embracing so many flourishing settlements, and having a people among whom you can recognize scarce a lineament of the American slave. Men here. *are men*, as you find them in other communities, showing as they do a proper respect for themselves and you; you cannot remember your former prejudices, however strong they may have been, but meet them at once, without a reflection, on terms of perfect equality.”

A distinguished English officer, who had been three years on the African coast, speaking of the people of Liberia in 1832, observes :

“The character of these industrious colonists is exceedingly correct and moral; their minds strongly impressed with religious feelings; their manners serious and decorous; and their domestic habits remarkably neat and comfortable.”

Lieut. Colonel H. Dundas Campbell said before an audience in London, in January, 1841,

“That, during the three years he had been Governor of Sierra Leone, he had frequent opportunities of observing persons from the colony of Liberia, and he had always found them very superior in intellect, besides being excellent mechanics, and generally very moral and well-conducted. In fact, he would candidly say that no persons in his own colony equaled them. From his knowledge of the interior of Africa, he took upon himself to say, that it was by the establishment of such colonies as Liberia that civilization would be effected there.”

Capt. Stoll of the British navy, who visited the colony in 1840, says :

“The colonists with few exceptions, are all members of churches, and I can safely certify, that a more orderly set of people I have never met with. I did not hear an improper or profane expression during my visit. Spirits are excluded in most if not all the settlements. They have formed themselves into various societies, such as agricultural, botanical, mechanical, for promoting Christian knowledge, also a ladies' society for clothing the poor. I went there unbiassed, and left it with a conviction that colonies on the principle of Liberia ought to be established as soon as possible, if we wish to serve Africa.”

Finally we conclude this mass of testimony with that of Dr. James Hall, who long resided in Liberia, and has been intimately acquainted with all the settlements of the colony, for the past eleven years, and whose perfect candour and integrity, accuracy of observation, and remarkable sagacity and soundness of judgment, are admitted by all who know him.

“The Liberians, says Dr. Hall, have shown a capacity for maintaining a free and independent government, a capacity and disposition for a fair degree of moral and intellectual improvement. The soil of Liberia is one of the most productive in the world, and capable of yielding all the varieties of vegetables, and all the staple commodities of the tropics. The climate of Africa is one that will prove as favorable to the American emigrant, as does the climate of the Western States to the New Englander. In fine, all that is necessary to favor and perpetuate on the coast of Africa, an independent Christian government, is an increase of the number of *select* emigrants, an increase for a certain period, of the appropriation to each individual on his arrival, and a general protection from the government of this country.”

If, then, upon this concurrent testimony from colonists themselves, from free colored men, who after careful personal examination of the soil and settlements of Liberia, have removed thither with their families; from captains of merchant vessels, American and English; from missionaries; from those who have retired from offices of responsibility in the colony; from intelligent and distinguished naval officers of the United States and Great Britain, and from the late Governor of Sierra Leone, any reliance can be placed, it is impossible to doubt that the foundations of a free Christian

commonwealth are well laid in Africa, and that the practicability of African colonization, to an indefinite extent, is demonstrated: It is for the friends of God and man in this country to consider how colonies so well organized, so beneficent as far as their power and influence extend, so admirably designed and situated for progress, and (if duly guarded and fostered,) to dispense rich blessings to one quarter of the globe, shall be sustained, and rendered effectual means of relieving the miseries and exalting the character and destiny of the African race.

While human nature continues fallible, no plan of good, even the most wise and least objectionable, can be executed without the liability to error, and the imperfection inseparable from all the works of man. We must be willing to labor in the twilight of our knowledge, and to have our best efforts often disturbed and counteracted by the infirmities, the prejudices, and the passions of mankind. To escape the effects of ignorance, mistake and perverseness, we must needs go out of the world. With multitudes, popular opinion, (however absurd,) has the force of law, and ridicule is the test of truth. A word of contempt, a shadowy and uncertain rumor, will shake the faith of some in a cause, the merits of which all history illustrates and all sound argument confirms. In view of the evidence we have here exhibited of the condition, character and importance of the colony of Liberia, we call upon all the editors, clergy, statesmen and Christians of the country to awake and arise with united energies and build it up, as a regenerating power to Africa and an everlasting monument to the praise of our philanthropy and religion. Why this silence, doubt, apathy? Why slumber the churches as though no knell sounded, appallingly, from Africa over the perishing and the lost? Why sleeps this whole nation as deaf to the majestic voice of Providence, speaking not less audibly than when it summoned the hosts of Israel to go forward? Why hesitate our statesmen in their places of honor and responsibility to propose and advocate measures in support of this scheme, so closely connected with the permanency and glory of our Union and the best interests of the two most numerous races encompassed by its limits? Will delay diminish the evils to be remedied, the difficulties to be overcome, or the expenditures to be made? Shall we indolently resign all the honors and rewards of the enterprise to our successors, and invite by our deeds of compassion, no redeemed children of Africa to come as pilgrims and scatter their fragrant flowers, and shed their grateful tears upon our graves?

What should be done to unite in more energetic measures the friends of the cause, and increase the funds of the Society, to strengthen (if it has been weakened,) the confidence of all the friends of missions in the scheme; to obtain efficient aid from the States, and the General Government; to secure a recognition of the neutrality, if not independence of



the colony from England and other governments, are subjects which may well deserve the consideration of the Board of Directors.

In the fulfillment of the stipulations of the treaty with England, in relation to the slave-trade, it will be easy for the government, through its squadron on the African coast, to extend adequate protection to our African settlements, and should a commissioner or commercial agent be appointed, by negotiation with many African tribes, to increase immensely the advantages of our own commerce, and at the same time promote the interests and extend the influence of Liberia. But we cherish higher hopes. We know of nothing in the constitution, or in reason, to prevent a direct appropriation of funds by the government, to enlarge the Liberian territory, or assist emigration to the colony. As a powerful, the most powerful auxiliary, to the suppression of the slave trade, and the increase of our lawful commerce on the African coast; it presents a just claim to our fostering care, as a means to those great ends. If both those great ends can be attained, most certainly and effectually and economically, by enlarging the extent and authority and population of Liberia, why should not direct appropriations be made for this purpose? At all events, every thoughtful man will admit, that if our African settlements are contributing, and in no small degree, to the suppression of the traffic in slaves, and to the encouragement, security and increase of American commerce, the great objects for which, at heavy expense, we maintain a squadron on that coast, it is right and proper that such squadron should afford protection to such settlements, and co-operate in the well directed enterprises of their citizens to extend the influence of their principles and authority.

We conclude this article with the following remarks from an eminent friend of the Society in London, to whose zeal and calm but effective reasonings and appeals, not only the Africans, but many other portions of our afflicted race are deeply indebted.

LONDON, 12mo., 4th, 1843.

“From the African Repository which I now receive, though not always in due course, I am glad to learn that the colony of Liberia appears to be in as flourishing a state as in any period of its history. I shall be particularly solicitous to know how the late slaves of John McDonogh succeed in their new situation, as they seem to have been the most promising body of emigrants who have yet gone out.

“I need not tell thee that I am a cordial friend to the colony of Liberia, and to the principle of colonizing with their own consent free colored people on the coast of Africa, as thou art aware that I have long been attached to the cause, to which I have devoted considerable time, much anxious thought, and for my small means, a considerable sum of money. The attacks of its enemies and the obloquy which I have myself been exposed to, on its account, instead of shaking my opinions, have even confirmed my convictions in its favor. But I observe in the columns of the ———

currency given to statements so inhuman, such palpable perversion of reasoning from statistics, that I have felt doubtful whether I could conscientiously retain an ostensible connexion with a body, of which that paper is the organ. I observe, moreover, such reiterated manifestations of captious hostility to England, that although I am by no means blind to her many faults, I must enter my protest against such articles, or withdraw from a society which, professing good will to men, does not refuse to sow the seeds of discord between nations. I allude to articles having titles to the following effect: "Aggressions of England," and containing in themselves not the proposal of any remedy for the evils, if they really exist, but the kindling of hostile feelings or the fanning of the flame, if it already burns. I lament as sincerely as any colonizationist can do, that the colony of Liberia, does not receive the cordial countenance and support of the government and people of England, and I lament also that in the place of these, any unfriendly occurrences should take place. It ought, however, to be borne in mind, that accidental and individual misunderstandings may take place, which ought not to be regarded as national. It also ought to be remembered that the present state of the coast of Africa is very peculiar. In the first place, it is the especial scene of those outrages of humanity and the laws, which the police of different nations is engaged in hunting out and punishing, and the innocent when in suspicious situations, must unavoidably be at times exposed, to be inconveniently overhauled and questioned. If in doing this, the police misbehaves itself, there is a legitimate channel through which complaint can be made, and redress sought. These very occasions, disagreeable as they must be to the parties concerned might, if properly treated, be made the means of publishing to the world the real merits of the colony and its friends. The other cause of grievance appears to be the conduct of British traders on the coast of the colony, and here I must say, that though I believe some captains may have been in fault, and know that the employers of one of them freely admit this to have been the case, yet on the main question the colony has itself to blame. It has done nothing to render its existence officially recognised in this country, still less to have the limits of its jurisdiction acknowledged. Consequently, though it is shown by repeated Liberian testimony, that when British government vessels have gone to a Liberian port, mutual good feeling has prevailed which has rendered their presence rather acceptable than otherwise, and though this has also been the case with some of our trading vessels, a trap seems laid for misunderstanding with respect to others. These traders have, from time immemorial, been in the habit of trading goods with the native chiefs, and no traders of this description are more numerous or more successful than your own American captains. The British captain now, however, goes to a spot which he has been accustomed to visit, commences his trade with the natives, when an American comes along, warns him off and seizes his property, telling him that he is engaged in a contraband trade on a prohibited part of the coast. The trader proceeds to make his complaint to some British naval officer, perhaps a midshipman or junior lieutenant of some man-of-war's boat, who finding that the obstruction has been made on no French, Dutch, Portuguese or Danish part of the coast, and knowing that the American Government holds none, regards the transaction as a violation of the rights of his countrymen which he is there to see respected.

The steps which follow may be very indiscreet and blamable, but they are the acts of an individual, of a class not always the most discreet, proceeding from a palpable defect which the colony or the United States Government should supply. I have myself written to your excellent minister at the British court and I have his written answer that he could not take up the matter in his official capacity, but that he would mention it privately to one of the Queen's ministers. I think Edward Everett was perfectly correct, but what can such private statements do against official complaints regularly presented. I likewise saw a tory member of the Committee, Sir T. D. Ackland, who listened most kindly to my statements and presented the documents which I produced, which has led to their being printed and published in the proceedings of the Committee. All this can only influence the private opinion of a few individuals so long as no steps are taken to obtain the recognition of Liberia as independent, or as a dependency of the United States. Our British Government will not take the first step in either mode of recognition. It does not even readily recognize the new colonies formed by its own subjects. The plain and reasonable course to be pursued is for Liberia to send a deputation to make the demand in form, and at the same time furnish such explanations as will be required, before the request will be acceded to. Thou must well remember the practical difficulty with which thy own personal application was met because made on behalf of a society and not on behalf either of the United States or the Liberian Government. I have for years endeavored to urge the adoption of this only straight course, and would exert myself to facilitate the steps which might be required, yet nothing of the kind is attempted, whilst the evils continue to be repeated and allowed to be the subject of complaints put forth in a spirit which can scarcely fail to engender those bad feelings between Americans, English, and Liberians, which the friends to each, and to humanity generally, cannot fail to deplore."

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#### A SLAVE FACTORY.

"From the missionary station, lately commenced by the Board, on the Gaboon river, Mr. Wilson has made several exploring tours, for the purpose of ascertaining the character and condition of the surrounding population. On one of these excursions, made in July, 1842, he visited King William's town, which is situated on the south side of the river, not far from its mouth. Having previously learned that there was a slave factory in the place, humanity as well as curiosity, prompted him to inspect its interior. He was informed by King William that permission must be obtained from the owner, a Spaniard, who resided in the village. Accordingly he was conducted to the abode of this individual, of whom the following description is given :

THE OWNER.—We found him as pitiable an object, if the thing could be possible, as the most miserable of his slaves. He was in a small room or tent formed of mats, lying on a cot, and covered from head to foot with a loathsome cutaneous eruption, known in this country by the name of *craw-craw*. He could speak neither English nor French; our conversation, therefore, was conducted by means of an interpreter. His first and last inquiries, as was very natural, pertained to men-of-war—how many, when, and where we had seen them. Some of our party were disposed to prophecy smooth things; but while I had no desire to see him more miserable, I felt no disposition to allay his apprehensions by any false hopes. He told us he had taken four cargoes of slaves from the coast, had been captured twice, but nevertheless, had realized a fortune of sixty to eighty thousand dollars. He said, also, if he could carry the slaves he then had to Havana, in safety, he would abandon the traffic; and he seemed to arrogate to himself no little credit for this virtuous intention.

The owner readily assented to the request of Mr. Wilson, and sent one of his young men to show the inclosure in which his victims were confined. The position and internal arrangements of the factory were as follows :

**THE BARRACON.**—This is situated at the opposite side of the town, to give the owner an opportunity of secreting his slaves in an adjoining forest, in case of a surprise by a man-of-war. It is an inclosure of one acre or more, one side of which is formed by a substantial bamboo house, perhaps two hundred feet long and eighty wide ; this is the sleeping apartment of the slaves. The adjoining side is formed by a shade of similar dimensions, the two ends and inner side of which are open ; this serves as a place of rendezvous during the day. The remaining two sides are formed by a double palisade, which might be easily forced by the occupants, if they were not fettered and guarded day and night.

When the missionary lands upon the Western coast of Africa, he finds that nominal Christians have been there for centuries. But in what capacity, for what purpose have they gone there ? How much have they done to open the way for missionary effort ? What have they effected in preparing the African mind for the Gospel of Christ ? The subjoined extract will throw some light upon this inquiry :

**TERROR OF THE SLAVES.**—On our arrival at the gate the slaves were all talking, and making a loud and confused noise, not unlike that which is heard on entering a large *maragerie*. But when the gate was opened, and we entered, the most profound silence ensued ; as we approached them it became the silence of the grave. Every eye was fixed upon us. What were their feelings and thoughts none, of course, can tell, except so far as the operations of the mind might be inferred from the expression of the countenance. Many of them had never seen a white man before, except the one who had bought them, and some had not even seen him. Most of them had imagined that they were to be devoured by the whites. They suppose that the kindness which is shown them in the barracoon is prompted by the same feeling which fattens the ox for the slaughter. When we entered many may have thought that a victim was to be selected, or that the time of their embarkation was at hand ; and in that very moment they may have yielded up the last lingering hope of being restored to their kindred and their homes.

The appearance of these miserable beings, together with the hardships and privations which they suffer, may be inferred from that part of the narrative which follows :

**GENERAL APPEARANCE.**—Among the slaves were persons of both sexes, from five to forty years of age. Some of them were smoking, and I was told that they had a small allowance of tobacco. Not one of the number, of whatever age or sex, had any covering. A few of them appeared to be light-hearted and frivolous, in despite of their chains ; the countenances of others showed that they were sunk almost to a state of idiocy. But most of them appeared thoughtful, pensive, and melancholy.

**CONDITION DURING THE DAY.**—With the exception of twenty or thirty invalids, all were seated on logs laid lengthwise, and about three feet apart, under the open shade already mentioned. Most of the men were fastened two and two, one ankle of each being fettered ; in moving about, which was apparently done with pain and difficulty, each rested one arm on the shoulder of the other. The women, girls, and half-grown boys were made secure by a brass ring encircling the neck, through which a chain passed, grouping them together in companies of forty or fifty each. Boys and girls under ten years of age were left unshackled.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NIGHT.**—The bamboo house, used as a sleeping apartment, has three parallel platforms, six feet wide, about one foot above the surface of the ground, and running the whole length of the structure. These platforms are covered with bamboo mats ; on these the slaves lodge, without any covering to protect their naked bodies from the cold or mosquitoes, both of which are nearly intolerable to persons in their situation at this season of the year.

The following extract will be read with deep emotion :

**A GROUP OF MOTHERS.**—There was one company which particularly arrested my attention—affected my heart. It was made up of mothers who had recently been bereft of their children. How they came to be chained together I cannot tell, unless their keepers, yielding to what they deemed an innocent and harmless desire, allowed them to be drawn together by their sympathies and sorrows.

Their owner knew, perhaps, what had become of their children, but he was unaffected by the reminiscence. Not so with them. Their countenances indicated an intensity of anguish which cannot be described. Though heathen mothers, a flame had been kindled in their hearts which no calamity could extinguish.

When infants are born in the barracoon, or when they are brought there with their mothers—because it is inconvenient to keep them in the factory, and almost impossible to carry them across the ocean—they are subjected to a premature and violent death. I speak advisedly, when I affirm that this is a common occurrence in the operations of the slave-trade; and it was in this way, I was credibly informed, that these sorrowing females had been sundered from their offspring.

The practice, then, of immolating infants is common in Western Africa; not that the natives are guilty of such cruelty, for they regard the deed with horror, and their idolatry, however blind and superstitious, has never reached this climax of cold-blooded depravity. It is the custom of white men, the nominal representatives of Christianity, begun and continued purely to gratify an insatiable avarice.

Having carefully surveyed this picture of destitution and wretchedness, and having suffered his imagination to run forward to the great horrors of the middle-passage, it was not strange that Mr. Wilson should close his description by saying, "I left the barracoon with my curiosity amply satisfied, and with emotions which will never allow me to visit another."

Those who have read the foregoing extracts will doubtless be pleased to receive further information respecting the history of this slave-factory. In the month of August, H. B. M. brig *Rapid* entered the Gaboon, with the intention of surprizing the factory; but in consequence of a mistake as to its position, the slaves were secreted before the force could be landed. The following incident, almost too horrible to be described, is introduced for the purpose of illustrating more fully the character of a traffic, which, in every aspect of it, is evil, and only evil:

AN EXECUTION.—Soon after the attempt of the *Rapid* to surprize the factory, a large number of slaves—between two and three hundred—broke their chains and escaped from the barracoon. Most of them were subsequently apprehended and returned. The owner, having discovered the two leaders, determined to punish them in such a manner as to intimidate the others from making a similar attempt. As soon as they had been fastened, with their hands behind them to two of the front posts of the shade, the rest were assembled to behold the bloody spectacle about to be exhibited. The Spaniard, in the presence of his victims, put a double charge into his gun, and then placing it within two feet of the breast of one of them, discharged the contents into his heart. The head of the poor creature dropped, the blood gushed forth in a torrent, and so he died. This, one would have thought, was enough to glut the vengeance of a fiend; but it was insufficient to satisfy the merciless Spaniard. He reloaded and discharged his gun several times into the bleeding corpse, before he began his work of death upon the other, whom at length he dispatched in a similar manner. The bodies remained suspended to the posts, where the execution had taken place, during the whole day.

In less than ten days after this tragedy, another attempt was made to escape from the barracoon; and two others underwent the same penalty.—*From the Day Spring.*

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*From the Vermont Chronicle.*

#### VERMONT COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

WE have waited till the last hour for the communication that Mr. Constantine was requested to send us. We now conclude it will not be sent at all; and therefore make use of the sketch of his remarks furnished by our correspondent. In regard to it, our Boston correspondent says:—

"I hope you will publish Mr. Constantine's statement about Liberia. I presume he gives a very fair view of the Colony as it appears to a New England Missionary whose health is so bad, and so hopelessly bad, that he cannot live there, and who, very naturally, becomes a little homesick. I happen to *know*, that, when he arrived in Boston, in June, 1842, he brought—or the ship that he came in brought—letters from one of his fellow laborers, who enjoyed tolerable health, and who gave a much more cheering account of affairs. This fact ought to go with his statement."

*For the Vermont Chronicle.*

COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The twenty-fourth Anniversary of the Vermont Colonization Society was held in the Brick Church, in this village, on Thursday evening, October 19th. The Hon-

Israel P. Dana, President of the Society, took the chair, at 7 o'clock. The meeting was opened with appropriate music from the choir. Daniel Baldwin, Esq., Treasurer, presented his report, from which, and the accompanying statements, it appeared that about \$650 have been raised in Vermont during the last year for the American Colonization Society, and this without the employment of an agent. The Secretary, the Rev. J. K. Converse, of Burlington, then read an abstract from the Annual Report, showing what has been done by the Society the last year; with a brief sketch of the doings of the Parent Board in sending out emigrants, purchasing territory, &c. The report contained an array of incontestible facts from Gov. Roberts, from colonists, from missionaries and naval officers, illustrating the generally good condition and progress of the colonists.

The Rev. George W. Campbell, of Newbury, then led in prayer; after which, the Rev. W. Mitchell addressed the audience in an appropriate discourse on the history of slavery and its remedy. It is expected that the discourse will be published.

At the close of Mr. Mitchell's address, notwithstanding the lateness of the hour, a Mr. Constantine, lately a Baptist Missionary at Edina, in Africa, was called on to make some remarks. It was known that Mr. Constantine was not friendly to Colonization, that he was a zealous abolitionist, in the technical sense, both before he went to Africa, and since his return, and that he had been acting, during the day, with the Liberty Party Convention, in the Free Church. Still, we all wished to hear what Brother Constantine could say; having no fear that the principles on which the scheme of Colonization is based, or the facts by which it is made to commend itself to every candid and intelligent mind, could be shaken. In compliance with the special request of Mr. Constantine's friends, he was called to the platform. Mr. C. appeared to be a pious man, and to feel deeply for the injuries of the colored race. Yet it was obvious to all that his views had received their shade and coloring from the strong enlistment of his feelings in a Society which has seen fit to oppose the Colonization Society. We took brief notes, and shall present the substance of his volunteer remarks, and of his answers when cross-examined. On the whole, his statements commend Colonization to our warmest confidence.

The substance of his volunteer remarks, is as follows:—

1st. Mr. Constantine said, when he first arrived in Africa, he visited Monrovia; that the colonies were then under Gov. Buchanan, that the Governor called with him upon a number of families, that he found them living in affluence, and was very favorably impressed, but that he afterwards learned that there was a good deal of poverty and idleness, that he saw some of the emigrants that were ragged and dissatisfied, and wished to return to this country, to the service of their old masters. When cross-examined it appeared that Liberia has some lazy and shiftless persons, such as are to be found in every community.

2d. Mr. Constantine said, that Gov. Buchanan told him, that when he succeeded to the government, he found some of the colonists engaged in making shackles for the slave ships. Had this statement and his remarks upon it passed without questioning, it would have left the impression that this *was done openly*, and with the approbation of public sentiment and of the colonial authorities.

Cross-examined. "Do you say that the colonists openly assist the slavers, and make shackles for them?"

Mr. C. "No."

"Do you say that blacksmiths in the colony make shackles with the approbation of the colonial government, or of the public sentiment of the colonists?"

Mr. C. "No, I do not."

"Did not the persons referred to make shackles in defiance of public sentiment, and for large gains, just as some persons in this country keep a tipping shop for gain?"

Mr. C. "I suppose they did."

"Do not the colonial authorities do what they can to hinder and break up the slave trade?"

Mr. C. "They profess to do so, and I do not know but they do."

Mr. C. went on to state that there is still one slave factory on the 300 miles of coast to which the name Liberia is applied. But on being questioned, he stated that this one factory *is not on the soil of the colony*, nor within its jurisdiction; but upon territory still owned by a native chief—which the Colonization Society is now striving to obtain the means of purchasing. Thus from the testimony, it appears that there is but one slave factory now, where there were perhaps twenty before our colonies were planted there.

3d. As it has been said by the opposers of Colonization, that the colonists reduce the natives to slavery, Mr. C. was requested to speak on that point.

He said the young natives, from 15 to 25 years old, generally do the work of the

colonists; that they are treated with a great deal of distance; that their religious instruction is neglected; that while most of the adult colonists are members of the church, and attend church very constantly on the Sabbath. The native young people are not brought to the house of God, nor instructed in the families in which they live.

Cross-examined. "But does slavery exist in the colonies?"

Mr. C. "No, not exactly. The native young people do most all the work and are not treated as they ought to be."

"Do they not receive wages?"

Mr. C. "Yes."

"How much do they receive?"

Mr. C. "They receive their chop, (i. e. their rice,) their cloth (clothing,) and in addition to this, what costs the colonists perhaps ten dollars, (i. e. for a year.)"

"But do not these natives enter and leave the service of the colonists just when they please?"

Mr. C. "Yes they do."—Thus endeth the lesson on colonial slavery. The sum of the whole, is, that the colonists hold slaves in Liberia just as we hold slaves in Vermont; i. e. we and they hold—*hired help*—who come and go when they please.

4. "What is the influence of the colonists in respect to civilizing the natives and facilitating the work of missions?"

In answer, Mr. C. went on to state that he did not receive all that support and aid from the colonists in his missionary work, which he expected when he went out,—that jealousies existed between the natives and the colonists, and that the latter sometimes spoke contemptuously of the former. Cross-examined. "Does not the hostility of some of the natives to the colonists arise from the efforts of the colonists to break up the slave trade, which the natives, for the sake of gain, desire to perpetuate?" Mr. C. "I don't know but it does."

"Was ever a mission established and sustained on the Liberian coast, by either Moravians or English missionary societies, until such missions had the sheltering and protecting influence of our colonies?" Mr. C. was understood to admit that he knew of no mission ever having proved successful until our colonies were planted there.

Thus we have brought to view the leading points upon which Mr. Constantine remarked, and have given, as nearly as possible, from our brief notes, the words of his answers. When it is considered that Mr. C. acknowledges himself not friendly to the Colonization Society, it will be seen that his answers contain important testimony in favor of our cause. We suppose that any man visiting the colony, and fixing his eye only upon the dark side of the story, might present a discouraging picture. This might be done of any community, for every community has its faults, its loafers and beggars, and its examples of mal-administration of law; and it would be strange indeed if Liberia were free from these evils. All we contend for, is, not that society in Liberia has all the comforts, conveniences, and refinements of New England, but that, all things considered, the colonies are doing well, and exerting a good influence, and already give promise of being the Plymouth of Africa. The Report, when published, will show the grounds of this faith.

The services of the evening were closed with the appointment of the following gentlemen as officers of the Society for the ensuing year.

Hon. SAMUEL C. CRAFTS, President.

Hon. PHINEAS WHITE, Gen. E. P. WALTON, Vice Presidents.

DIRECTORS.

Hon. Charles Paine,  
James Bell, Esq.,  
A. W. Hyde, Esq.,  
Henry Stevens,  
Rev. R. C. Hand,  
E. C. Tracy,

D. Kellogg, Esq.  
S. Chapin, Esq.  
David Pierce, Esq.  
Rev. Wm. Mitchell,  
Hon. Peter Starr,  
Charles Adams, Esq.

Rev. J. K. Converse, Secretary, Daniel Baldwin, Esq. Treasurer, Hon. Jeduthan Loomis, Auditor.

FROM THE COAST OF AFRICA.—The schooner *Ida*, arrived at New York from Sierra Leone, brings late advices from Africa. Previous to her sailing the British brig-of-war *Spy* had captured three Brazilian slavers on the African coast. One of the slavers had five hundred slaves on board. The slaves were all liberated and the vessels condemned and sold. She reports that the blacks on the river Poug continue to carry on their war with one another with as much ferocity as ever. They sell their prisoners as slaves. There are a great number of British vessels of war on the coast, who board all vessels on their arrival there. No further attempt has been made to explore the river Niger as yet.—*National Intelligencer*.

**RAISING COFFEE.**—The seed is first planted in a nursery, as it were, while it is sprouting up into a young tree, or plant, the field for its transportation—sometimes covering hundreds of acres—is being weeded and prepared. When the saplings attain proper age and growth they are taken up and planted for permanent purposes in the coffee field. They are put in rows at distances from each other of from 4 to 6 feet longitudinally, and from 6 to 8 feet latitudinally. Here they remain until they are worn out, bearing coffee in some soils for a period as long as twenty years. The field being thus planted, the whole of the planter's attention, year after year, is now directed, first, to keeping the plantation clean and entirely free from weeds, for this is indispensably necessary to the good and wholesome growth of the trees; next in trimming the trees, so as to prevent them from reaching a higher altitude, than the coffee can be plucked from them by the hand, or extending their branches too wide, thereby preventing the pickers from passing easily around them. Secondly, in plucking or picking the coffee-berries from the tree at the proper season; and thirdly, in preparing it for the market. The weeding is done with great care, not so much as a single blade of grass is to be discovered among the coffee trees, covering entire acres; and thus the whole powers of the soil, which is a marl of a heavy reddish color, are preserved for their nourishment. Round the bounds of the coffee trees, and at convenient distances through them, there are walks or avenues, the margins of which are laid out in great taste, and planted with palm, orange and other trees, giving it great beauty. Indeed a coffee plantation, seems to be nothing more or less than an overgrown but well tended garden. It affords a surpassingly sweet perfume, and when the trees are in flower or when the berries are red—some still being green, it is picturesque beyond any thing.

As the tree does not send forth all its blossoms simultaneously, a portion of the berries become ripe before the rest, and hence the process of picking is repeated at different periods. The blossom first shoots forth in the latter part of April or early part of June. The berry first assumes a green hue, and as it becomes more ripe, it changes to a deep red. The pulling is performed in August and September. The general process of preparing the coffee for market is this: It is first placed on a glacier of circular shape and smoothy plastered surface, built expressly for the purpose, in a quantity of about 12 inches in depth. This is done for the purpose of rotting the shell or husk of the berries, every one of which contains two or twin grains of coffee. It is next on the same glacier, but in less quantities, dried by exposure to the sun; when it is put in a circular mill or trough, where a wheel passing over it breaks off the shell and clears the grain from all hindrances. It is next winnowed, by which the broken husks are blown off from the grain; and lastly, it is picked or assorted, the pickers using their hands alone, and having no aid from machinery, dividing the crop, grain by grain, into different classes—superior, middling, and inferior. It is then put up for market.

#### MR. CLAY ON SLAVERY.

In 1827, before the abolition excitement commenced, Mr. Clay, at a meeting of the Colonization Society, said:

“If I could be instrumental in eradicating this deepest stain (slavery) upon the character of our country, and removing all cause for reproach on account of it by foreign nations—if I could only be instrumental in ridding, of this foul blot, that revered State (Virginia) that gave me birth—or that no less beloved State (Kentucky) which kindly adopted me as her son, I would not exchange the proud satisfaction which I should enjoy for all the honor of all the triumphs ever decreed to the most successful conqueror.” In the same speech he remarked, in reference to such as objected to the agitation of the slavery question, “If they would repress all tendencies towards liberty and ultimate emancipation, they must do more than put down the benevolent efforts of this Society. They must go back to the era of our liberty and independence, and muzzle the cannon which thunders its annual joyous return. They must revive the slave-trade, with all its train of atrocities. They must suppress the workings of British philanthropy, seeking to ameliorate the condition of the unfortunate West India slaves. They must arrest the career of South American deliverance from thralldom. They must blow out the moral lights around us, and extinguish the greatest torch of all which America presents to a benighted world, pointing the way to their rights, their liberties, and their happiness. They must penetrate the human soul, and eradicate the light of reason and the love of liberty. Then, and not till then, when universal darkness and despair prevail, can you perpetuate slavery, and repress all sympathies and all humane and benevolent efforts among freemen, in behalf of the unhappy portions of our race who are doomed to bondage.”—*New York Observer*.



## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of the American Colonization Society will be held in this city, on the *third Tuesday* of this month, (the 16th, not the 23d as stated in our last number through mistake,) when the report of the Executive Committee will be presented and the Board of Directors convene for the transaction of business.

✍ Editors friendly to the Society are requested to insert in their papers the above notice.

RECEIPTS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,  
FROM 20TH NOVEMBER, TO 30TH DECEMBER, 1843.

## MAINE.

*Bath*, For the purchase of territory in Africa by Jno. Hyde, Esq., 50 00

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

*New Market*, Annual subscription by Miss Rebecca Kittridge, per  
Hon. L. Woodbury, - - - - - 10 00

## MASSACHUSETTS.

*Boston*, From the Massachusetts Colonization Society, per Rev.  
Joseph Tracy, Secretary, - - - - - 101 72

## CONNECTICUT.

*Danbury*, Collection in the Congregational Church, per Rev. R. L.  
Stone, - - - - - 20 33  
*Meriden*, General Booth, - - - - - 2 00 22 33

## NEW YORK.

By Rev. J. K. Davis, Agent:  
*Newburgh*, E. W. Farrington, Esq. for the purchase of territory in  
Africa. \$25, by a Friend, \$10, - - - - - 35 00  
*Albany*, Thos. McMullen on life-membership, - - - - - 5 00  
*Cambridge*, Collection in the Presbyterian Church, Rev. A. Bullens,  
Sr. Pastor, per Mr. O. Cook, P. M., - - - - - 7 00  
*New York City*, A. G. & A. W. Benson's subscription, - - - - - 20 00 67 00

## PENNSYLVANIA.

*Philadelphia*, From the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, per Rev.  
J. B. Pinney, agent, - - - - - 539 98

## VIRGINIA.

By F. Knight, Esq., Agent:  
*Harper's Ferry*, G. B. Wager, Esq., - - - - - 5 00  
*Millwood*, Mrs. M. C. Page, P. Burwell, each \$5, Miss L. Nelson, \$3,  
*Berryville*, Miss M. Noble, \$1, Allen Wilson, \$5, Collection in Epis-  
copal Church, per Rev. Mr. Shiras, \$15, - - - - - 21 00

<i>Winchester</i> , Frederick county aux. col. society—D. W. Barton, \$10, P. Williams, R. Y. Conrad, Obed Waite, Rev. W. H. Atkinson, Rev. J. F. Smith, each \$3, G. K. Walter, W. Stephenson, each \$2, T. B. Campbell, J. S. Guyer, O. M. Brown, W. B. Baker, Dr. S. G. Gray, L. Logan, each \$1, - - - - -	45 00	
<i>Romney</i> , D. Gibson, Esq., \$5, W. Harper, \$2, A. P. White, W. Vance, J. B. White, each \$1, W. Armstrong, 75c., Rev. Mr. White, 50c., - - - - -	11 25	
<i>Capon Bridge</i> , Mr. Vance, - - - - -	50	
<i>Richmond</i> , Annual subscription by Miss Kitty Minor, of Louisa Co., per James M. Allen, Esq., - - - - -	5 00	100 75

## KENTUCKY.

<i>Louisville</i> , Collection in St. Matthew's Church, in 1842, Rev. Mr. Page, Pastor, - - - - -	6 00	
<i>Jefferson City</i> , Collection in Rev. N. Smith's Church, - - - - -	15 15	
Collection in St. Paul's Church, <i>Henderson</i> , Rev. Mr. Jackson, \$15, per S. Casseday, Esq., - - - - -	15 00	36 15

## OHIO.

<i>Walnut Hills</i> , Annual contributions by Mrs. & Miss Maria Over- aker, each \$25, - - - - -	50 00	
<i>Cincinnati</i> , Annual contribution of \$100 by Judge Burnet, also, for the purchase of territory in Africa, by the same, \$100, per Hon. J. R. Geddings, - - - - -	200 00	250 00

## MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Midway</i> , Collections, \$3 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ , James Walker, Mary B. Walker, each \$10, Samuel Goodrich, Sr., Thomas Oswald, D. Hoard, F. L. Mead, Rev. W. James, each \$5, Augustine Pugh, \$4, William Lipscomb, A. E. Lipscomb, each \$2, Rev. J. Angell, Miss E. Stev- ens, William Collins, J. S. Lewis, G. W. Phillips, Mrs. R. Johns, Richard Reames, C. Hoover, D. F. Lewis, each \$1, Cash, 81 $\frac{1}{4}$ cts., per Rev. William Winans, - - - - -	66 00	66 00
Total Contributions, - - - - -		\$1,294 98

## FOR REPOSITORY.

VERMONT.— <i>Bennington</i> , Lyman Pachin, Esq., for '44, - - - - -	1 50	
NEW YORK.—By Captain Geo. Barker, Agent: <i>Catskill</i> , \$16 17. <i>Hudson</i> , \$6. <i>Milden</i> , \$4. <i>Canaan 4 Corners</i> , \$3. <i>Saugerties</i> , \$3. <i>Peekskill</i> , \$3. <i>South Salem</i> , \$5. <i>Rye</i> , \$10. <i>New Rochelle</i> , \$3. <i>New York City</i> , \$1 50.—Total, \$69 67. By L. B. Castle, Agent: <i>Elmyra</i> , Samuel Partridge, for '44, \$1 50. <i>Fairport</i> , Daniel Chase, for '44, \$1 50. <i>Havana</i> , C. J. Baskin, for '44, \$1 50. <i>New York City</i> , Journal of Commerce, '41 to '43, \$4. <i>Amity, Orange Co.</i> , Thomas C. Jennings, to '44, \$7. - - - - -	85 17	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.— <i>Georgetown</i> , Otho Z. Manchester, sub- scription for '44, - - - - -	1 50	
KENTUCKY.— <i>Louisville</i> , W. McNaughton, for '41 and '42, \$3, Mr. Wins' subscription, \$3. - - - - -	6 00	
OHIO.— <i>Gallipolis</i> , C. L. Bureau, for '42 and '43, - - - - -	4 00	
VIRGINIA.— <i>Romney</i> , John McDowell, to Jan. '44, - - - - -	8 00	
MISSISSIPPI.— <i>Natchez</i> , Mrs. E. Little, to '44, \$4 50, Rev. W. Van Campen, to '44, \$1 50. - - - - -	6 00	
Total Repository, - - - - -		112 17
Receipts from other sources, - - - - -		1,747 87
Total, - - - - -		\$3,154 02







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